

EDITORIALS

A Plug for Oil

Thousands of communities across the nation have taken the occasion of this year's Oil Progress week observance, starting today, to honor the men who provide the fuel that keeps American transportation moving at its dizzy pace.

Few spots in America are most interested in oil than Torrance which boasts, as an important part of its livelihood, a large oil field and several of the refineries which produce a big share of America's fuel.

Certainly, however, not among the least of the persons to be honored during Oil Progress week are the filling station operators. Of them, one Chamber of Commerce said:

"We salute the men from whom visitors get their first impressions of our town, the first local residents most visitors meet, and the only residents many travelers talk to.

"They send a stream of customers to our restaurants, stores, hotels, and other businesses; and by professional competence in a complex modern trade, have themselves become representative of our leading merchants."

The HERALD is happy to endorse that sentiment. It aptly expresses our own feeling about some of our best citizens. We doubt if there is anyone living in this community who doesn't owe a debt of gratitude to one or more service station men, not only for a continuing supply of good gasoline and other products at reasonable prices, but for some friendly service performed not in the line of duty.

The most important point, though, is that the service man also is a symbol of his progressive industry. Just as we can drive into his station, say "Fill her up," and be sure of prompt and efficient service, so can Uncle Sam drive up to the industry and say "I need a million gallons of jet plane fuel" or "Ship a hundred tanker loads of diesel fuel to our defense forces in Europe," and get prompt and efficient action.

Just as America's 200,000 service stations are run by up-and-coming competitive small businessmen in their neighborhoods, so the 42,000 larger companies that make up the progressive oil industry are run by other men who help make it possible for America's vast collection of neighborhoods to prosper at home, to keep the peace, and to be ambassadors of good will to the whole world.

A Chance to Help

Announcement that a group of public-spirited Torrance citizens has met to formulate plans for raising vitally needed funds to carry on and expand the tremendously important work of the City of Hope should be well received locally. Torrance, along with other Southland communities, has greatly benefited from this famed institution that has done so much in the treatment of catastrophic diseases.

Now Torrance will be afforded the privilege of helping to underwrite the \$3,500,000 needed annually by the City of Hope. In addition to the care provided 65 out-patients last year, over 100 beds were made available to local residents by the "hospital with a heart."

Mr. Glenn Koger and Mrs. John W. Beeman are to be commended for assuming the joint leadership of the committee to raise money. Their efforts should be willingly matched by the community at large when the call for support is sounded in the near future.

Out of the Past

From the Files of The Torrance HERALD

10 Years Ago This Month

October, 1946

Three Torrance firms—Pacific Smelting Co., General Petroleum Corp., and Columbia Steel Co.—were targets of civil suits for abatement of alleged smoke and fumes nuisances, filed by District Attorney Fred N. Howser. Ed Saul, Torrance stockman, reported that with the lifting of price controls he got an all-time high of \$29 a hundred for a truckload of hogs. Sue Coburn, 927 Arlington Ave., was selected to reign as "Queen for a Day" by the radio program of the same name.

15 Years Ago This Month

October, 1941

Robert White, 2360 Sepulveda Blvd., left for England where he planned on joining the Civilian Technical Corps. Louis Zamperini was stationed at Camp Roberts, his first station since he was inducted at Fort MacArthur. A surprise rainstorm dropped .07 inch of moisture in the Torrance area.

20 Years Ago This Month

October, 1936

Local Democratic headquarters were opened at 1528 Cravens Ave., opposite the Fire Hall, to support the campaign of President Roosevelt and Vice President Garner. Irvin C. Rous tendered his resignation as a

member of the city's civil service commission. Registration was at its highest peak in the history of Torrance as 4417 persons were registered and eligible to vote at the Nov. 3 election.

25 Years Ago This Month

October, 1931

Henry W. Wright, chairman of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, advised residents that jobs on construction projects in the county will be reserved for permanent residents, and not Eastern relations. The first edition of THE HERALD'S All-Color, All-Interesting comic section was on the stands. Torrance High took a moral victory in a 13-6 loss to Narbonne. The final count was much closer than that anticipated.

30 Years Ago This Month

October, 1926

E. C. Nelson, new cashier of the First National Bank of Torrance, arrived to take up his duties at the local banking house. Upon his arrival in Torrance, Nelson stated that he believes this community is one of the most promising young cities on the coast. "Scottie" Scott, Torrance Electric Co. employe, ascended the flagpole in the park at Sartori and Marcellina Aves. and installed a new signal light for the local police department.



AFTER HOURS

By JOHN MORLEY

President Nasser's seizure of the Suez canal was inevitable when Egypt was driven to the Soviet orbit by two related events: the establishment and support of the State of Israel by the West, and the West's refusal to sell arms to Egypt. The Suez canal seizure was possible only with Soviet support.

Nationalism, of course, played a part, but nationalism has existed in Egypt for a long time. It took the conspiratory hand of Russia's new foreign minister, Dmitri Shepilov, to kindle the ambitions of Gamal Nasser to lead the Arab-Moslem world against Israel and the West supporters of Israel through the Suez seizure.

The Arab-Moslem fanatical hatred for Israel was the rallying issue which overthrew King Farouk and catapulted Nasser and the Egyptian army to power. The defeat of the superior Egyptian army by Israel in 1948-1949 so humiliated the Officer corps that it became the showdown point of the 20-year secret effort of the army to overthrow Farouk for his indifference to his poverty-stricken people.

Despite the crash meetings in London and Paris over the Suez seizure, the real danger is not just at Suez. For Suez will most likely remain open and traffic will move whether Egypt or the West runs it. Egypt agreed to compensate the owners for taking over the canal now. . . . on the same conditions she was to get it by treaty in 1968.

The real danger of the seizure is that international stability has been damaged and with it international respect for pledged and honored obligations. Nasser has flagrantly violated existing agreements on Suez because, by his own admission, he was angered by the U.S. withdrawal of the offer to finance the Aswan dam.

If seizures of foreign properties are going to be based on the shifting winds of political expediency or the craze for personal power, instead of on treaties and agreements, the all-important basis of good faith in international business agreements will collapse. What makes the Suez seizure extremely dangerous is the bad example it sets for the possible seizure and nationalization of Middle East oil by the various Arab and Moslem states.

Secretary Dulles, in our opinion, was right in refusing arms to Egypt to give him an upper hand in his explosive dispute with Israel. This created a vacuum which Russia inevitably jumped in to fill. To pay for the communist arms, Egypt committed 40 per cent of her cotton crop to Russia. This made Egypt a bad financial risk on the Aswan dam negotiations with the U.S.

We believe Secretary Dulles was right again in refusing to go through with our offer, as Egypt's financial status changed drastically with the commitment of 40 per cent of her cotton to Russia. But we believe Mr. Dulles was wrong in the method he used to turn down Egypt. Instead of notifying Egypt through our regular diplomatic channels that the Aswan offer was withdrawn, he allowed Nasser's envoy to come all the way from Cairo to Washington, expecting to get the loan, and then publicly humiliating Egypt by our blunt turn-down.

The second mistake the West made in the Suez dispute was to set up the meetings in London, instead of some neutral city, like Geneva or Athens. This was an untenable insult to Egypt's pride and again aroused public resentment in the Middle East against the West. It seems that we are not able to understand the psychology of foreign pride in these delicate matters.

The third mistake of the West over Suez was in the manner it treated the seizure itself. London and Paris called it "an act of aggression like the seizure of the Ruhr by Hitler in 1936," which, of course, bore no resemblance. Secretary Dulles wisely applied soothing salve to our angered allies by proposing a conference of the canal users in some "neutral" center. The British insisted on London and it was held there to the detriment of any amiable solution.

President Nasser's appeal to the UN was inevitable, because the UN cannot help but consider his case. Looming in the background is the fact that in 1952 the United Nations passed a resolution declaring "that undeveloped countries had the right to nationalize resources within their borders." It was passed over the objection of the U.S., which insisted "that treaty rights of nations and individuals anywhere in the world should be respected until their expiration."

The United States was the only Western nation that supported this amendment in the UN. Britain and France abstained. The amendment lost; its loss provided at least the moral ground for nationalizing resources by political opportunists of the likes of Nasser.

GLAZED BITS

By BARNEY GLAZER

Crystal Ball Glazer predicts that the last U.S. telecast in black and white will be seen three years from now. After that, it will be all color on your homeset. . . . Also we forecast that before 1968 appears on your wall calendar, we will have person-to-person TV. . . . Rhythm and blues are on the way out and guess what will take its place—western music!

What top rhythm and blues singer applied to Spike Jones for a job and Spike told the crazy crooning kid: "Son, my advice to you is to go back to stealing hub caps! . . . To all you husbands and wives who can't get along with each other. If at first you don't succeed, try a little ardor. . . . Wonder what Sacramento thinks now that Hollywood has the Capitol Building?"

That newspaper display ad for sagging sofa bottoms intrigues me. Ma'am would you like to have your sagging sofa bottom repaired today? . . . Hollywood will put Henry Armstrong's life on celluloid and about time! . . . If you want to be a comedian, or if you want to learn how to tell a funny story at that lucheon, try Bill Glason's gag file, an inexpensive monthly service. We can put you in touch.

Stripteasers are complaining that Elvis Presley's gyrations are "indecent." Arthur "Street Singer" Tracey is not returning to showbusiness for the money. He's wealthy. . . . Joe E. Lewis says that every time he looks into a TV monitor he looks like the Merrimac. . . . There's a restaurant in Redondo Beach where you have to wait two years for a reservation!

Busline conversation: "Can you imagine how I felt after sitting there for an hour and then learning I had come to the wrong funeral?" . . . Tip to Drive-in-theater operators. Why not set aside a patio and lawn section with well-padded chairs and invite the public to attend your "Walk-in-theater"? . . . Classified Addity: For Sale, 1947 Chevrolet with hard-to-get standard shift.

Dolores Del Rio wants to live the life of Riley, which is why she intends to re-marry Lew Riley. . . . A European visitor writes that they don't build fortresses any longer to keep out the undesirables. They accomplish the same purpose by raising their hotel prices. He also says he has an uncontrollable desire for some good Italian food and he can't wait until he returns to the U.S. to get some.

There is good news in automobile row. Auto production for 1956 will be 2,000,000 less than 1955. . . . Last remaining West Coast Indians who have the know-how to carve the semi-mystic totem poles are Mungo and David Martin.

The SQUIRREL CAGE

By REID BUNDY

Today is the first day of Oil Progress Week, and throughout the nation, representatives of the oil industry are dredging up some amazing statistics about their profession.

As an example, did you know that farm tractors alone consume about 73 million gallons lubricants each year?

Or that only 150 wells have ever been drilled below 15,000 feet in the United States—one third of them last year? (Most if not all of them were probably drilled with a Torrance-made National Supply Co. rig.)

Or that about 75 million gallons of petroleum products are needed in compounding the various types of agricultural and household insecticide sprays used each year?

Or that about 300 gallons of jet fuel are required to taxi a current jet bomber from the warmup ramp to the end of a runway for take-off—usually a distance of about one and one-half miles?

Or that there is a service station for every 322 automobiles, trucks, and buses in this country?

All of this we believe because we can't disprove it—except that last item, that is. A drive around a few Southern California blocks should cause one to doubt the service station figure—there must be more. Lots more.

A hobby, you hear, is something you are goofy about because you don't want to blow your top over things in general.

And, according to a recent Teamsters magazine, age 16 is when a boy turns from Boy Scouting to girl scouting.

The magazine also refers to the man who called a spade a spade—until he stumbled over one in the dark.

More press releases we plan to read later—maybe: "Every farmer in the Antelope Valley who does not belong to the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau will receive a personal visit from a . . . " "Every rabbit farmer in the Southern Los Angeles area who does not belong to the Los Angeles County Farm Bureau can expect a personal visit from a . . . "

I should quit while I'm ahead, but my guess on the 1956 census, now being taken, is 83,476.

The Burt Dodge family of 421 Via Anita was beginning to wonder if it were all worth while the other day when they went boating at Balboa. In the first place, 5-year-old Robbie fell in the drink. He was pulled out, dried off and they all started for home.

In the second place, they stopped for a traffic signal on 101 coming home and were rammed in the rear by another auto. To cap off the day, the family stopped at a nearby neighbor's home and 6-year-old Burton ran on home, only to rush back seconds later to say the house was burning up the firemen were there.

It really wasn't that bad—it was just that a crew installing the plastic line that supplies their home with gas, and the fire crews were standing by while it could be repaired.

We can imagine that the Dodge family will long consider the value of a nother outing at Balboa.

My Neighbors



The Freelancer

By TOM RISCHÉ

The feminine charms of American tourists aren't going over too big in our good neighbor to the south, Mexico, especially when milady reveals too many of her charms in public.

"Near nudism" of tourists has been viewed with a raised eyebrow and a frown on the part of some of the gentlemen who run Mexican newspapers. They don't like the attire of some American women who peer at local sights while clad in bathing suits, shorts and skimpy blouses.

One editor, after noting that some "near nude" ladies visited the local cathedral, said, "They modestly put a handkerchief or something on their heads as the church demands, but the rest of their body could use a handkerchief or two; also."

The Mexican men probably will be hearing some "Viva, Mexico" from some of their American compatriots. What burns up the Mexicans is that local women are taking up the state of near undress.

In contrast with many other parts of the world, Americans are casual dressers and Southern Californians are among the most casual. In England, milady would rather be struck dead than be found wearing an afternoon frock in the evening. In Southern California, milady may wear a bathing suit to do her shopping.

Torranceites are familiar with the sight of ladies wiggling, squiggling, and waddling in bathing suits, since the beaches are so near.

At the beach, a bathing suit is appropriate. Elsewhere, it doesn't seem quite as attractive, at least according to one school of thought. Neither are shorts, tiorador pants, pedal-pushers, and slacks.

In these days of short feminine hair cuts and slacks, a poor man often has to look twice before he can decide

whether an individual is prospective whistle-bait. Women can't be distinguished from men without an ID card.

Bathing suits, however, are another matter. Away from the beach, very few men are averse to taking stock of feminine charms clad in one of Rose Marie Reid's latest creations, as long, that is, as the charms belong to somebody other than his wife, daughter, or sister. The point is that each of the feminine bathing-suit wearers is somebody's wife, daughter, or sister.

We've gotten away from the idea that a peep at milady's ankle is something strange and forbidden and somehow naughty. We've gone so far the other way that there isn't much that is strange, forbidden, and wicked. There are only so many clothes that can be taken off.

A smart woman will conceal her feminine wiles (and there are some women who would do well to conceal the absence of such wiles), and keep the man guessing. Some clothes don't leave much to the imagination. It's mystery that keeps life interesting.

Many people, both female and male, go shopping in clothes that would be appropriate at the beach, on the tennis courts, or to clean out the chimney.

Clothes don't make the man (or woman), but they help to give an overall impression. The impression that many people get from the clothes of casual livers (the right clothes at the wrong time) isn't exactly favorable.

People who would never think of wearing their Sunday clothes to the beach think nothing of wearing their beach clothes to step out on Sundays.

In a crowd, some people's dress looks like the proverbial dirt in a punchbowl. They dirt in a punchbowl. They don't seem to know it. Should we tell them?



LAW IN ACTION

LEGAL SAFETY FIRST

How does one keep down legal risks? Here are a few good things to know:

1. When you buy something you run a risk that you won't get what you want. Get a written guarantee, but first make sure to order exactly what you want. By model number, color or some other description.

2. When you enter some new situation—like learning to drive, or taking a new job—just find out what law governs that field. The law for photographer differs from that of a grocer or a pharmacist, but each has its own rules. Find out about yours.

3. Another good way to keep in fine legal fettle: Keep good records—of when your bills come due, and when what others owe you falls due, of your property, your earnings, and your contracts and agreements. Keep track, particularly, of your tax affairs, both state and national.

4. Remember your legal duty to report both to government and private parties—to landlord if your house leaks, or your insurance company in case of a fire or an automobile accident, etc.

5. Make your claims on others within the time set by the statute of limitations. Make

sure you know how to make your legal demands and when and to whom.

6. Finally, keep your legal risks down by living up to your legal duties under your contracts or otherwise. Above all—keep a record of what your duties are and how you have met them—in writing of some sort.

Note: California lawyers offer this column for you to know about our laws.

TORRANCE HERALD

1619 Gramercy Ave.

FA 8-4000

Established Jan. 1, 1914

Published Semi-Weekly at Torrance, California, Thursday and Sunday. Entered as second class matter January 30, 1914, at Post Office Torrance, California, under act of March 3, 1879.

KING WILLIAMS, Publisher
GLENN FPEL, General Manager

REID L. BUNDY, Managing Editor

Adjudicated a legal Newspaper by Superior Court, Los Angeles County. Adjudicated Docket No. 215470, March 30, 1957.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier, 45¢ a month. Mail subscriptions, \$4.00 a year. Circulation office: FA 8-4004.

THINGS TO TALK ABOUT

